

PATENT (5181-91401/P6357)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applica	tion No.:	09/872,360			
Filed:	May 31,	2001			
Invento	r(s):				
Kan, et al.					

Title: **DISTRIBUTED INFORMATION**

DISCOVERY

Examiner: Unknown
Group/Art Unit: 2171
Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-91401

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Robert C. Kowert

Name of Registered Representative

January 8, 2004

Signature

Date

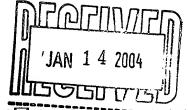
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:



Technology Center 2100

	Applicant requests cons	sideration of	the ref	erences li	isted on the	attache	d Form P	TO.
1449 a	nd/or the additional	information	identified	below in	n paragraph	3. A	copy of e	each
referen	ce listed on the Form PT	O-1449 is end	closed.					

1.	I nis In	iormatio	n Discio	osure State	ement i	s subn	nittea	:		
	a.		within	3 months	of the	filing	date	of a	national	а

a. within 3 months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);

within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an International application;

before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for

continued examination under § 1.114.

b. after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.

	c.	after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus: the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.						
2.	It is he	nereby certified:						
		that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or						
		that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.						
3.	\boxtimes	Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:						
		U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/106,731 (5181-93100) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/106,600 (5181-93200) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/106,604 (5181-92900) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/106,601 (5181-93400) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/106,398 (5181-93000)						
4.	For ea	ach non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:						
		reference is made to an English language translation submitted herewith, and/or						
		reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or						
		reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or						
		reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s), and/or						
		reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:						
5.		Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:						
6.		Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.						
7.		The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure						

Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.

8. Applicant(s) requests that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned application.

If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5181-91401/RCK.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Kowert Reg. No. 39,255

Attorney for Applicant(s)

MEYERTONS, HOOD, KIVLIN, KOWERT & GOETZEL, P.C. P. O. Box 398 Austin, Texas 78767 (512) 853-8800

Date: January 8, 2004

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Form PTO-1449 (modified PADEMAN Y. DKT. NO. 5181-91401 SERIAL NO. 09/872,360 List of Patents and Publications **GROUP: 2171** APPLICANT: Kan, et al. For Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement (Use several sheets if necessary) FILING DATE: May 31, 2001 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** FILING DATE IF CLASS **SUB** DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE NAME REF. EXAM. APPROPRIATE **CLASS INITIALS** DES. C1 6,161,102 12/12/00 Yanagihara, et al. C2 6,070,158 5/30/200 Kirsch, et al. RECEIVED JAN : 8 2004 Technology Qenter 2100 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS TRANSLATION DOCUMENT NUMBER **COUNTRY** CLASS SUB DATE EXAM. REF. YES/NO **INITIALS** DES. **CLASS** C3 829 811 3/18/98 EP C4 00/62264 10/19/00 WO OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the patent owner.

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED: